

Serial No. 08/936,304

Amdt. in Resp. to Off. Act. mailed Mar. 23, 2005

UTILITY PATENT

B&D No. TN2213A

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-5 (canceled).

Claim 6 (currently amended): A laser level system, comprising:

a rotating shaft;

a motor coupled to the shaft adapted to drive the shaft more than 360 degrees in a single direction;

a case rotatably supporting the rotating shaft; and

a module housing attached to the rotating shaft, the module housing having a mechanical axis and containing a laser diode projecting a beam having a center ray, wherein the mechanical axis and the center ray of the beam are not coincident with respect to each other but define a reference plane, which is perpendicular to the rotating shaft; and

a battery at least partly disposed within the case, the battery being electrically connected to the laser diode.

Claim 7 (previously presented): The laser level system of claim 6, wherein the module housing extends from the rotating shaft, defines a hole with a center axis which contains the laser diode, wherein the laser diode has a mechanical axis aligned with the center axis and an optical axis not aligned with the center axis, wherein the center axis and the optical axis are perpendicular to the rotating shaft.

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Claim 8 (previously presented): The laser level system of claim 6, wherein the module housing extends from the rotating shaft, defines a hole with a center axis which contains the laser diode projecting a non-collimated beam along an optical axis non-coincident with the center axis, wherein the center axis and the optical axis are perpendicular to the rotating shaft.

Claim 9 (previously presented): The laser level system of claim 6, wherein the module housing extends from the rotating shaft, defines a hole with a center axis which contains the laser diode projecting the center ray non-coincident with the center axis, wherein the laser diode is rotated in the hole such that the center axis and the center ray are perpendicular to the rotating shaft.

Claim 10 (previously presented): The laser level system of claim 6, further comprising a battery powering the laser diode.

Claim 11 (currently amended): A laser level system, comprising:

- a shaft having a rotational axis;
- a motor coupled to rotate the shaft;
- a case rotatably supporting the rotating shaft; and
- a module housing extending from the shaft and containing a laser diode for projecting a laser beam to produce a reference plane, wherein the laser diode emits a beam that is disposed at an angle relative the rotational axis, so that, when the laser diode is rotated in a single movement about the rotational axis of the shaft, the produced reference plane is substantially perpendicular with the rotational axis of the rotating shaft; and

a battery at least partly disposed within the case, the battery being electrically connected to the laser diode.

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Claim 12 (previously presented): The laser level system of claim 11, wherein the laser diode has a mechanical axis and a laser beam axis and wherein the laser diode is rotated about the mechanical axis.

Claim 13 (currently amended): A laser level system for producing a level 360 degree reference plane, comprising:

a rotating shaft;

a motor coupled to the shaft adapted to rotatably drive the shaft;

a case rotatably supporting the shaft; and

a module housing attached to the rotating shaft, the module housing containing a first laser diode for projecting a first beam having a first center ray and a second laser diode for projecting a second beam having a second center ray, wherein the first and second center rays are perpendicular to the rotating shaft, and the shaft being rotated so that the first and second laser diodes produce the level 360 degree reference plane; and

a battery at least partly disposed within the case, the battery being electrically connected to the first laser diode.

Claim 14 (previously presented): The laser level system of claim 11, wherein the angle is about 90°.